

**PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
APRIL 2010**

WHEREAS, maltreatment of children affects the vitality, health and structure of the entire community;

WHEREAS, children raised in safe, secure environments are better equipped to contribute to development of their community and its economic development as adults;

WHEREAS, nurturing environments are essential to the well-being of children and their families;

WHEREAS, children, families and communities are strengthened when children are protected from all forms of abuse and violence;

WHEREAS, child abuse has far-reaching consequences, including placing financial burdens upon the community;

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention succeeds when individual citizens, schools, faith and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, social service agencies, government and the business community work together to prevent child abuse;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Washington County Commission does hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Washington County, and calls upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the community in which we live.

Signed

Date